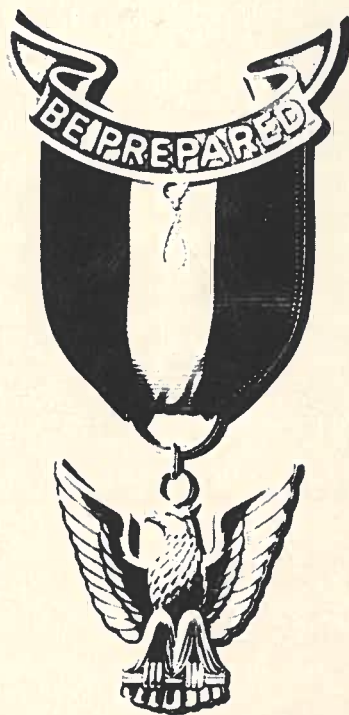


**1947••1972**  
**TWENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY**  
***YEARBOOK***



*The Eagle Scout Association*

ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL • BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

## EAGLE SCOUT

A fond mother watches her boy where he stands  
    Apart from his comrades tonight;  
As they place on his camp-battered tunic a badge,  
    An Eagle, the emblem of right.  
It seems just a few short months have passed  
    Since he joined with the youngster next door;  
How proud he was then of his Tenderfoot pin  
    As he told her the message it bore.  
But the years have gone as he struggled along  
    To learn what the Scout Law's about;  
He practiced them daily, the Oath and the Law  
    Until now, He's an Eagle Scout.  
You may smile in your worldly old wisdom at this  
    And say, "Why, it's only a pin";  
But I tell you no honors he'll gain as a man  
    Will mean just as much to him.  
The Red, White and Blue of the ribbon you see  
    Are the symbols of honor and truth;  
He has learned how to value these fine attributes  
    In the glorious days of youth.  
And the outflinging wings of the Eagle that rests  
    On the breast of this knight of Today  
Are the things which will lift him above petty deeds  
    And guide him along the right way.  
Yes, it's only a pin - just an Eagle Scout Badge,  
    But the heart that's beneath it beats true  
And will throb to the last for things which are good,  
    A lesson for me - and for you.

-- Author Unknown

1971 - 1972

EAGLE SCOUT ASSOCIATION  
TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

PAST PRESIDENTS

Albert E. Cunliff	1947-48
Arthur Werde*	1948-49
Tom J. Connelly	1949-50
Stuart N. Senniger	1950-51
Robert I. Phemister	1951-52
William M. Guthrie	1952-53
Albert W. Gruer, Jr.	1953-54
Jack Grossman	1954-55
Charles H. Bland	1955-56
Jerome M. Steiner, Sr.	1956-57
George Benham Ross	1957-58
Gene A. Cole	1958-59
Orlie H. Wilkening	1959-60
Edward W. Bilhorn	1960-61
Roland Smillie	1961-62
Louis H. Heyman	1962-63
H. Douglas Day	1963-64
Harry E. Davis, Jr.	1964-65
Dickson S. Stauffer, III	1965-66
Morton T. Werner	1966-67
Harold B. Bamberg	1967-68
J. Philip Hellwege	1968-69
Charles I. Hartmann	1969-70
David B. Guthrie	1970-71
Zane O. Squires, Sr.	1971-72

\* Deceased

### "UP AND AWAY"

Those words aptly describe the Eagle Scout Association on this, its 25th Anniversary. With an impressive record of accomplishment behind it, the largest membership in its history, and an on-going program the envy of similar organizations in other Councils around the U. S., the ESA has more than fulfilled the dreams of its organizers back in 1947.

No one is certain whose "idea" sparked the ESA's founding, but two dedicated Scouters were largely responsible for getting things moving: Colonel Joseph E. Vollmar, president of the St. Louis Area Council at the time, and Carl H. Laemmli, long-time member of the Council's professional staff.

Both men realized the great, virtually untapped potential of the more than 2,000 Eagle Scouts of record at the time, dating back to 1920. As adults with a full Scouting experience behind them, these "bald Eagles," as they came to be known, held great promise of giving back to Scouting much of what they had gained from it.

Carl Laemmli, with his long tenure in the Council--and personal acquaintanceship with many of the 2,000 Eagles--plunged into the job of locating these men. Many had moved out of the Council, of course; others never returned from World War II, some had just "disappeared;" but many were here, some active in Scouting, others not. But as the word got around, hundreds began to surface and no one was more surprised than Carl Laemmli to learn what so many Eagles were then doing. A

surprising--or perhaps not so surprising--number of them were leaders in the business, professional, labor, government, and education communities.

Some fifty of these adult Eagles were invited by Colonel Vollmar to an organizational dinner at the Racquet Club, on July 25, 1947. About 29 showed up and enthusiastically appointed a steering committee under the chairmanship of Albert E. ("Mike") Cunliff. Then, on April 28, 1948, at a mass meeting in the auditorium of Washington University's Law School, the Eagle Scout Association formally came into being, with Mike Cunliff as its first president. The initial draft of the ESA's constitution and by-laws was drawn up by Thomas B. Curtis, soon to be elected a U. S. Congressional Representative.

The success of the Eagle Scout Association here has led to the establishment of similar associations in other Councils; and plans are now firming up to form a National Eagle Scout Association. Such a step, activating thousands of adult Eagles throughout the nation, could have a profound effect on the continued progress of Scouting in America, judging from what has happened here in St. Louis.

From its beginning the ESA's activities have been channelled in two directions of service to Scouting--group activities and individual efforts. Through the years there have been many special ESA projects. Included has been the encouragement of boys to join Scouting and then to strive mightily toward attainment of its highest advancement, the prized Eagle badge. Eagle Recognition Day, held for years during Scouting week, was a good example, bringing together each year's new Eagles, their parents and friends, to give added, impressive recog-

dition to the hundreds of Scouts who had fought their way to the top of Scouting in advancement.

More recently Eagle Recognition Day has been supplanted by Free Enterprise Day, when new Eagles are given the opportunity, under the auspices of the ESA and the Council, to meet and spend a highly enlightening day with the St. Louis area's top business and professional leaders.

Other ESA group programs have included well organized and implemented advancement programs to help Eagle candidates, with emphasis on such projects as swimming and life saving skills, the merit badge program generally, and Eagle review and award work. The Association has also regularly participated in such Council functions as the Scout Circus, Scout Exposition, the Friends of Scouting campaign, and summer camp promotion. Today the ESA is a powerful influence in getting inner city Scout troops to camp--units that otherwise would not make it due to their lack of adult leadership, which we help provide. Similarly, ESA members are now moving in as counselors to Scoutmasters of inner city troops in the over-all programming and administration of the units' programs. Such counseling takes a high degree of skill, experience and motivation, with which adult Eagles appear to be singularly endowed.

Individual members of the Eagle Scout Association, hundreds strong, most of them inactive in Scouting since boyhood, have made significant contributions to Scouting since joining the ESA. A survey in 1967, for example, showed that 60 percent of all ESA members were active in

Scouting...as members of the Eagle Board of Review, major Council committees, unit committeemen, merit badge counselors--in virtually every volunteer position in Scouting where an Eagle's expertise is invaluable. A surprising number had, once they joined the Association, reactivated themselves as adult leaders of Scout Troops, Explorer Posts, and Cub Packs--even though the ESA has always made it clear that it never recruits members with this as a requirement.

As a result of their renewed interest in, and outstanding contributions, to Scouting, a number of ESA members have been presented with Scouting's highest award to adult volunteers, the coveted Silver Beaver.

But the ESA is far from all work and no play. Adult Eagles enjoy the comradarie of being, and working, with their fellow Eagles. At the ESA organizational meeting in April, 1948, nostalgia prompted the suggestion that all ESA members and their families retreat to Camp Irondale for the Labor Day weekend. Thus began an annual gathering that is the highlight of every ESA year, with the event now being held at Camp May.

1949 was the first really full year of ESA activity. The first official roster, carrying the names of 209 dues-paying members, was published--as it has been regularly over the past quarter of a century. Our first in-town social event, a "Bald Eagle Ball," was held out at Valley Mount Ranch, where 75 members and their ladies appeared--again the first of many such notable events to follow. Later in 1949 the ESA held the first of its general meetings at Beleverdere Joe's Restaurant (where the complete char-broiled steak dinner cost \$1.75).

ESA's first participation in the Boy Scout Circus also took place in 1949. Officially, we served as the Distinguished Guests Reception Committee, plus holding a brief but impressive Eagle investiture ceremony at each performance before the packed galleries and thousands of Scouts on the floor in the St. Louis Arena. In subsequent years the ESA has staged a Variety Show at the Scout Circus, to entertain the thousands of Scouts, Explorers, and Cubs as they impatiently await to go "on stage" and present their acts.

One of the Association's first official projects of real significance was serving as advisors to Life Scouts on their way to Eagle. While acknowledged to be over-ambitious for the fledgling ESA, the fact remains that Eagle awards in 1949 and 1950 jumped 100 percent.

In 1950 the ESA began to take stock. The consensus was that is was primarily a socially oriented organization--and should stay that way, letting the members find their own levels of participation in the program. But it was also agreed that it could, and should, act as the Council's "flying squad," handling projects that other Scouting groups had neither the time or resources to handle. Thus was set the pattern for ESA's highly successful future.

Another precedent set in 1950 was the holding of the organization's annual meeting during the Labor Day weekend outing, where the largest turnout of active members was assured. Few general meetings are held during the year any longer, mainly because any member of the ESA is welcome to attend the regularly scheduled meetings of the board of directors, proving the ESA is a genuinely democratic organization.



As the years have rolled by--all too fast for most of us--the ESA has experimented in many ways how to best utilize its members' talents in behalf of Scouting. As younger adult Eagles have joined our ranks, while Scouting principles have been strictly adhered to, the application of them to new situations have changed greatly, which is good. The young adult Eagle joining the ESA today, while facing challenges that have been with the organization for the past 25 years, finds it easy to move in, be accepted, get an attentive audience for his ideas, and cooperation in the implementing of those that appear sound and good for Scouting.

Many of the great ideas that have made the ESA what it is today came from the comparatively younger members, including the ESA's successful cooperation with the Council in its fund-raising efforts to establish such outstanding facilities as Beaumont Reservation and the S-F Scout Ranch...the Fire Tower at Beaumont, for example, resulted from 103 ESAers contributing \$3,691 toward the cost, plus putting in many hours of volunteer work in helping the contractor erect the tower.

Other "young ideas" with great merit have included the purchase of a completely equipped chuck wagon for the rapidly expanding Explorer program...the financing and erection of an observation tower at Camp Irondale...and, in 1963, the raising of \$16,719 toward the development of the Sakima waterfront at S-F...plus many periodic contributions of time, talent, and money to many other Council needs.

While its members have done much for the Eagle Scout Association, the ESA has given much in return, including the opportunity for many dedicated adult Eagles to find an outlet for their Scouting interests, skills, and energies. Many have grasped the opportunity, and both Scouting and the individual ESAer have profited richly. Two ESA members who made outstanding contributions have been recipients of the National Council's Distinguished Eagle Scout Award...Thomas B. Curtis, distinguished legislator for years and presently vice president of the Encyclopedia Briticanna and the now deceased Theodore R. Gamble, former president of Pet, Incorporated.

Where will the Eagle Scout Association be in 1997? Much will depend upon the number and quality of adult Eagles the ESA attracts; and this in itself will be one of ESA's great challenges. Great ideas are that alone until someone grasps and executes them. This has been the success of the ESA to date...outstanding personal performances, if often within the framework of a group.

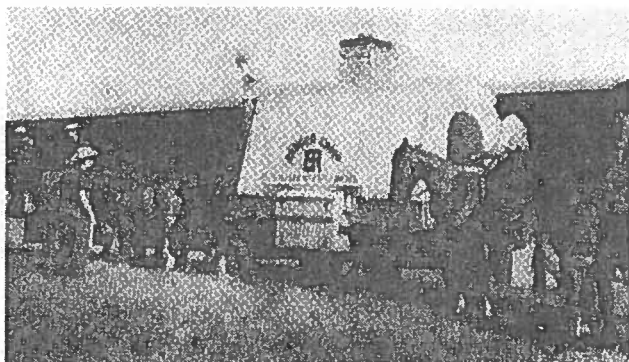
So, ESAers, on deck and to come, pick your targets, close ranks, let not temporary discouragements dissuade you, and press forward--as was so often and aptly said in those high school annuals--toward the goal of all of us...to give back to Scouting as much or more of what it gave to us.

Up and away!

THE EARLY YEARS



In the beginning      ESA Incorporation



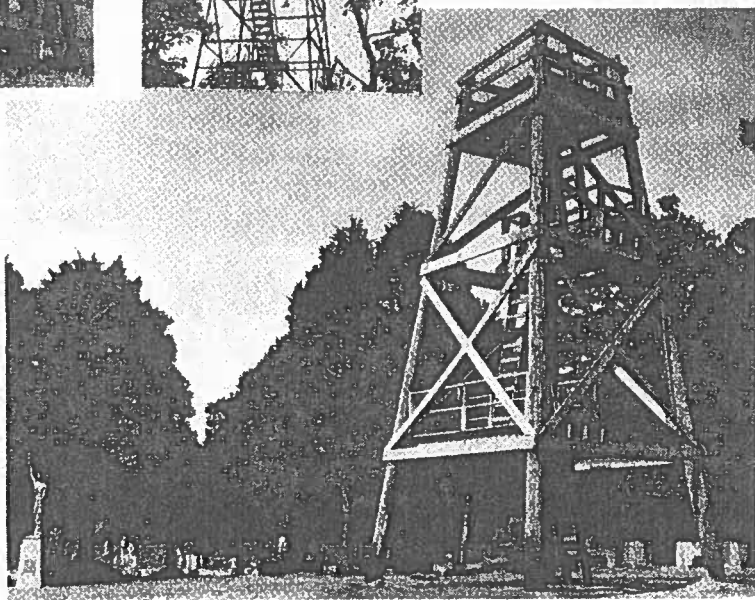
Chuck Wagon 1957



Eagles' Nest



Tower Dedication



Eagles' Nest    No. 2

SPOTTING EAGLES



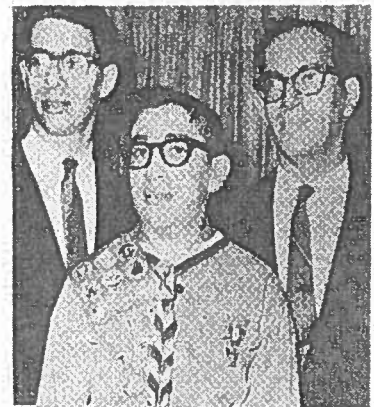
ESA Booth  
Scout Exposition 1954



Eagles' Recognition Day 1958



S.O.L.E. Campaign at Scout Exposition 1960



Family of Eagles 1965



Eagles' Recognition Day 1957



Eagles' Recognition Day 1959



LABOR DAY WEEKENDS AT IRONDALE



Square Dance 1956



Change of Presidents 1963



Kids' Campfire 1964



Mess Hall 1956



Swim Carnival 1956



1957 Oops -- Not Irondale

MODERN ERA



1.



2.



4.



3.



5.

1. Beaumont 1966

2. At Swim Pool, Beaumont 1966

3. Swim Carnival, Beaumont 1966

4. S-F 1966

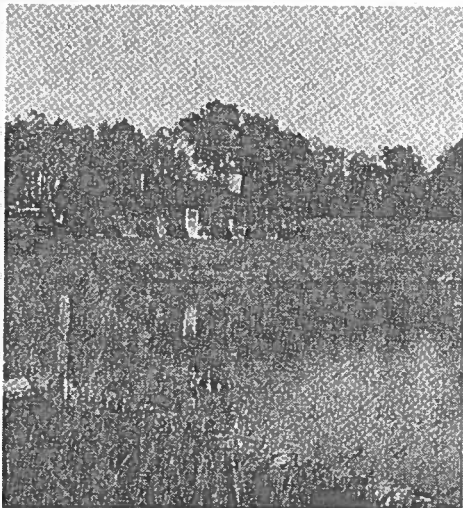
5. Atop Castle Rock at S-F 1966



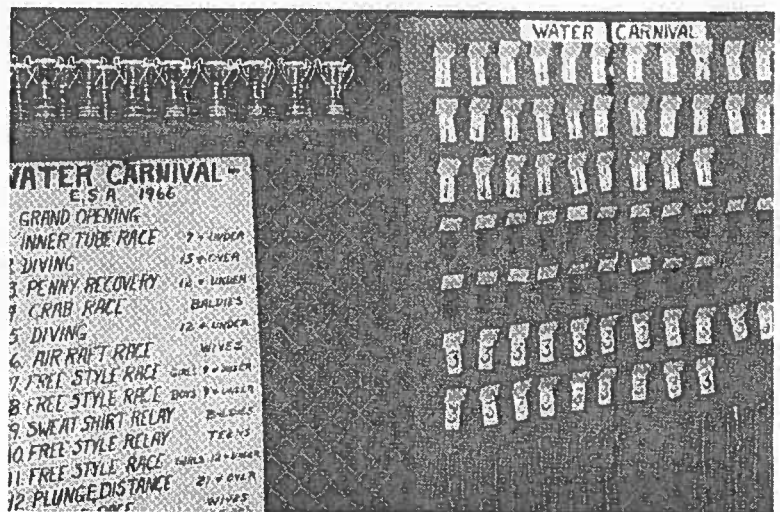
In 1969, Harold Bamburg, president of the Eagle Scout Association, received the "Big Brother of the Year Award" from Richard Fitzgibbon, president of the Big Brother Organization, in recognition of the Eagle Scout Association's leadership in the Central City Camping Program.



Baldies and bus at 1967 Fall Stag.



Southern Comfort Lodge, location for many of the Fall Stag outings.

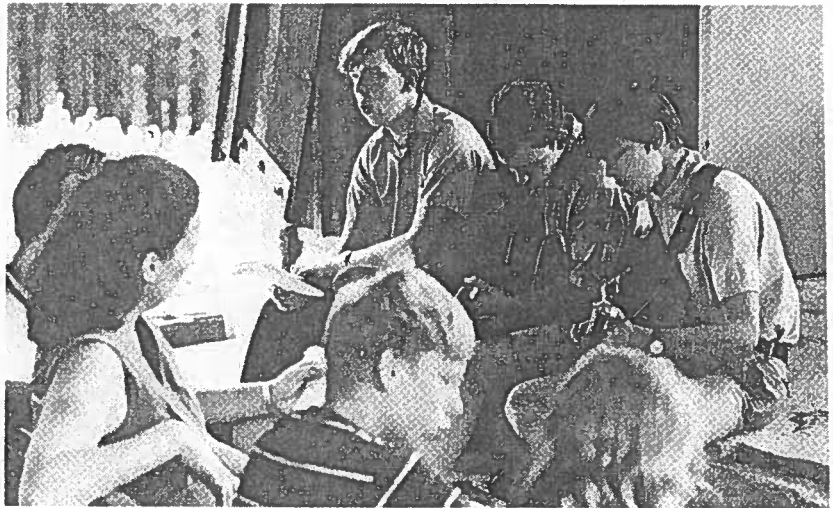


Water Carnival trophies at the 1966 Labor Day Weekend.





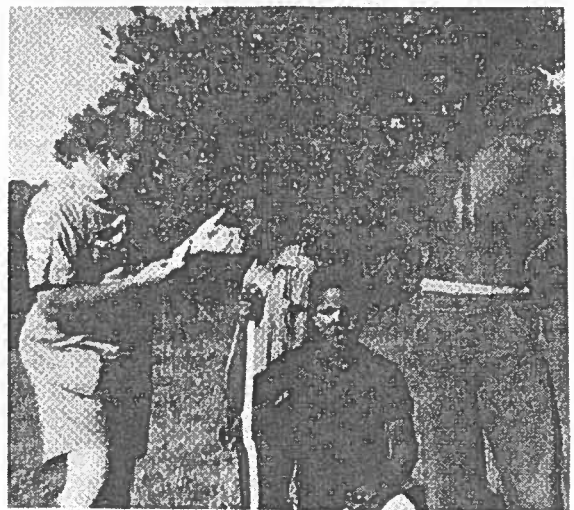
Council President Harold Thayer and Scout Executive Russ Hart attend ESA Annual Meeting at Beaumont, September 1970.



Church Service at 1970 Labor Day Weekend.



Baldies and spouses at the 1971 Spring Dinner-Dance.



Dick Gould, one of many ESAers who have provided leadership for the Inner-City Camping Program.